ELLIS ISLAND, HOSPITAL OUTBUILDING
(Ellis Island, Hospital Laundry)
(U.S. Immigration Station)
Statue of Liberty National Monument
New York Harbor
New York
New York County
New York

HABS NY-6086-K
NY-6086-K

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ELLIS ISLAND, HOSPITAL OUTBUILDING
(Ellis Island, Hospital Laundry)

HABS No. NY-6086-K

Location:	New York Harbor, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey, and New York City, New York County, New York
Present Owner:	U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service
Present Occupant:	Ellis Island National Monument
Present Use:	Vacant; undergoing rehabilitation
Significance:	Ellis Island Immigration Station is significant as the primary port of entry into the United States for immigrants during the period 1892-1954. It is located on three small islands modified by successive building programs into one. Opened in 1892, the first immigration station was destroyed by fire in 1897. The facility was subsequently rebuilt over time with immigrant processing buildings on Island 1, a general hospital complex on Island 2 and a contagious disease hospital on Island 3. The Hospital Outbuilding is a support building for the hospital complex on Island 2. The hospital complex at Ellis Island—operated by the U.S. Marine Hospital Service from 1900 to 1912 and by the U.S. Public Health Service from 1912 to 1951—closed March 1, 1951. The Ellis Island Immigration Station ceased operation November 12, 1954. The immigration station was made part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument in 1965. Dating to 1900, the Hospital Outbuilding is one of the oldest extant buildings at Ellis Island. It was one of the first three buildings erected on Island 2 following the 1897 fire. The 1½-story Hospital Outbuilding features modest elements of the Georgian Revival style, the mode selected for all buildings on Island 2. The Hospital Outbuilding's relatively modest scale suggests its ancillary use. Despite its size, the building is graced with the massing, hipped roof form, and brick construction with stone detailing that define the primary buildings within the Island 2 hospital complex. These design elements integrate the Hospital Outbuilding with the cohesive form of the larger hospital complex. The building originally incorporated a linen room, a laundry, a boiler room, a disinfecting department, a morgue, an autopsy room and second floor living quarters. Numerous alterations reflect continuous adaptation to meet new needs as the hospital complex evolved. After construction of the contagious disease hospital on Island 3, which included more than a dozen new buildings such as a power plant, mortuary and laundry, it is thought that the Hospital Outbuilding continued to serve the main hospital complex on Island 2 in its original capacities. Repairs and alterations made to the Hospital Outbuilding include repairs done in 1911 and 1916 following explosions on nearby New Jersey wharves, and in 1921 after a fire destroyed much of the building. Other changes were made over time including interior wall removal, and the 1937 construction of the west elevation linen exchange addition.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1900

2. Architect: Office of the Supervising Architect, U.S. Department of the Treasury (James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect)
Boring & Tilton, New York City

3. Original owner: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Immigration, 1900-1904

Subsequent Owners: U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor, 1905-1912
U.S. Department of Labor, 1913-1940
U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1942-1954
U.S. General Services Administration, 1954-1965
U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1965-Present

4. Builder: Attilio Pasquini, New York City

5. Original plans and construction: Historic drawings and field observation indicate that many aspects of the Hospital Outbuilding's historic Georgian Revival appearance are intact or have been faithfully replicated. Original drawings stamped by Boring & Tilton and approved by James Knox Taylor in 1900 include first and second floor plans, elevations, foundation and piling plans, foundation section, transverse building section, various other sections and interior details, and a detail of the staircase.[1] (Figures 1 & 2) In 1921 the building was described as a two-story, 60 foot by 45 foot brick and terra cotta building with plastered walls and ceilings and a pitched slate roof over wooden rafters and supports.[2] The building's first floor housed laundry, boiler room, coal room, morgue and autopsy rooms, a linen room, disinfecting department and two toilet rooms in ten separate spaces. The second floor included four large dormitory rooms and two toilet room-bathroom areas arranged around a central hallway.

6. Alterations and additions: The current footprint and form of the Hospital Outbuilding is the result of a number of alterations in the 1920s and 1930s. A fire in 1921 destroyed all wood trim, framing, and windows and damaged laundry equipment. Resulting repairs replaced structural wood roof elements with steel members, rebuilt windows, installed new interior plaster walls and ceilings, new concrete flooring

[1] Drawings for Ellis Island buildings are digitized and available from the Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior at http://etic.nps.gov.

[2] Letter, Alfred Brooks Fry (Chief Engineer and Superintendent of Repair of Public Buildings, New York) to Commissioner of Immigration, Ellis Island, (17 May 1921), Folder 111-A, Box 1805, Entry 9 - Subject and Policy Files, 1893-1957, Record Group 85 - Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C. (hereafter Entry 9, RG 85, NARA I).

and laundry equipment.[3] At that time, the Hospital Outbuilding appears to have assumed laundry functions for the contagious disease hospital, as the laundry on Island 3 was considered obsolete.

A first floor drawing of the laundry room dated 1923 was modified in 1930 and shows the boiler room and coal storage room replaced by a pressing room, which was accessed by a large, new opening in the east wall of the boiler room. (Figure 3) The north elevation exterior door into the boiler room and the original linen room also were removed by that date. Other early modifications included a new first floor women's toilet room located in a former toilet room (this space now houses a stairway), modification of the exterior door accessing the women's toilet room into a window, construction of a new concrete floor and drains in the laundry room, installation of new laundry equipment, and redesignation of the small toilet area adjacent to the morgue as the men's room.[4]

The second floor appears to have been consistently used as staff quarters; in 1937 it housed male employees.[5] The second floor remained unchanged from its reconstruction following the 1921 fire until 2008-2009 when a new staircase on the south side of the building was installed in the former south side second floor toilet-bathroom area.

Changes to the exterior form of the building focused on the linen exchange area on its west side. By 1916 a no-longer-extant, detached linen storage building was located west of the building near the present location of the east wall adjacent passageway. In 1932 drawings were made for a new linen exchange to be constructed "…along the eastern exterior wall the wooden covered way with a connector leading to an original first floor door in the hospital outbuildings west elevation."[6] This gabled roofed, frame and sheet metal building was located near the southwest corner of the Hospital Outbuilding's west elevation, and replaced the earlier, detached linen exchange.[7] Three 1934 site plans show the existing west elevation brick linen exchange addition, and the adjacent corridors (C8B and C8C) as proposed new construction, with the original corridor connecting the Hospital Outbuilding to the Hospital designated for reconstruction (Figure 4). Drawings for the corridors dated January 27, 1934 also show the foundation and roof plans for the brick linen exchange addition.[8] By October 1937, this attached addition, which gave the building its present configuration, was under construction by the George F. Driscoll Co.[9] A 1937 site plan revised in 1942 shows the Hospital Outbuilding with its present footprint.

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[3] Specifications for repairs to the Hospital Outbuilding, 1922, p. 17, Folder 53597/111, Repairs to Hospital Outbuilding/Laundry 1913-1922 and Equipment Box, Entry 9, RG 85, NARA I.

[4] NPS Drawing No. 462/42,975, Sheet 2 of 14, (14 February 1934), "Electrical Installation Island No. 2."

[5] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold, *Volume 4, Pt. 1,* 85.

[6] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold. *Volume 4, Part 1,* 75.

[7] NPS Drawing No. 462/42,959, Sheet 1 of 1, (8 August 1923, revised 10 June 1930), "Reconstruction and Recondition of Laundry Building Island No. 2, Concrete Floor and Drains;" NPS Drawing No. 462/43,959, Sheet 2 of 6, "Repairs to Covered Way," (17 March 1932).

[8] Drawing No. 5-401 & No.5-402, (27 January 1934), "Covered Passages."

[9] Memo, Byron H. Uhl to W. H. Wagner, (8 October 1937), p. 3, Folder 330 - WPA Projects, 1933-1937, Box 16, Record Group 79 – Records of the National Park Service, National Archives and Records Administration - Northeast Region, New York City. (hereafter RG 79, NARA – NE Region).

In 2008-2009 the National Park Service began rehabilitation of the building as an exhibit space. Included in the work undertaken to date is stabilization and replacement of the roof framing with a wood structure and re-installation of the original terra cotta tile roof, installation of a large HVAC system in the former boiler and coal rooms and new ducting throughout the building, enclosure of large interior doorways in the boiler room area with sheet rock, construction of a new interior steel and concrete stair and sheet rock stair well in former first and second floor bathroom areas, and installation of in-kind replacement wood frame windows and doors.

A. Historical Context:

The United States Immigration Station at Ellis Island was established in April 1890 and was an early, and perhaps the most well known of the federal immigration facilities established at the end of the nineteenth century. Prior to 1890, the states handled immigration, but the growing influx of immigrants nationwide spurred federal officials to establish a new federal system.[10] After considering other nearby locations, federally-owned Ellis Island in New York Harbor was selected as the site of New York's primary immigration station. Design and construction of the new facility were quickly undertaken and included enlarging the island to eleven acres and constructing a number of wooden buildings.[11] The facility opened January 1, 1892 and about 700 people reportedly landed that first day. A major fire in July 15, 1897 destroyed the buildings at Ellis Island Immigration Station. During their tenure, more than 1,500,000 immigrants were processed through these buildings.[12]

Within three days of the fire, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, which handled immigration at that time, began planning a new facility.[13] The preliminary plan included adding three acres to the island and building three steel and brick buildings: a main immigration building, a kitchen and restaurant, and a hospital at an estimated cost of $600,000. In September, the Department of the Treasury sought designs for the new facility in an architectural competition under the terms of the Tarnsey Act. The Tarnsey Act was passed by Congress in 1893 and authorized architects in private practice to submit designs for federal projects. The Ellis Island competition was only the second time the competition process had been used for a federal project under this law, and several prominent New York firms were invited to submit designs.[14] The New York firm of Boring & Tilton's proposal was selected because it demonstrated the best grasp of the project and focused on the use of practical materials for facilities that could be economically constructed.[15] The plan called for monumental complex with three, primary, "fireproof"

[10] J. Tracy Stakely, *Cultural Landscape Report for Ellis Island Statue of Liberty National Monument: Site History, Existing Conditions, Analysis* (Brookline, MA: National Park Service, Olmstead Center for Landscape Preservation, 2003), 27.

[11] Stakely, 29.

[12] Harlan D. Unrau, *Historic Resource Study (Historical Component) Volume I of III: Ellis Island Statue of Liberty National Monument, New York-New Jersey,* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1984), xix.

[13] Between 1890 and 1892, immigrants arriving at New York were processed through Castle Garden and then through a building called the Barge Office. According to Harlan D. Unrau in *Historical Resource Study (Historical Component) Volume II of III, Ellis Island-Statue of Liberty National Monument New York-New Jersey.* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1984), 215-216, between 1897-1900 an annex to the Barge Office was turned into an inspection station for steerage passengers and two large houses on State Street fronting the Battery were leased for detention and hospital uses.

[14] Antoinette J. Lee, *Architects to the Nation: The Rise and Decline of the Supervising Architect's Office* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), 201.

[15] Stakely, 37.

buildings—an immigration building roughly on the site of the burned structure, a kitchen and laundry building, and a powerhouse – arranged along a northeast/southwest axis. Additionally, the Boring & Tilton proposed a new island south of the original island. A ferry slip would separate the two and the second island would be the site of a hospital. The French Renaissance Revival buildings would be placed in an appropriate ornamental Beaux Arts setting with allees of trees along symmetrical walks.[16]

The Ellis Island project was Boring & Tilton's most prominent commission; other important projects included the Seamen's Institute in New York and the Jacob Tome Institute at Port Deposit, Maryland.[17] The Beaux Arts flavor of the design for Ellis Island was in keeping with their training and the prevailing architectural mode for institutional buildings at the turn of the twentieth century. William A. Boring (1859-1937) studied architecture at the University of Illinois and Columbia University School of Architecture. Upon graduation in 1887 from Columbia, he enrolled at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris for an additional three years of study.[18] Upon his return he worked briefly for the New York firm McKim, Mead and White but soon formed a partnership with Edward L. Tilton.[19] Edward L. Tilton (1861-1933) studied architectural drawing with a tutor and then for a short time worked in the offices of McKim, Mead and White. Within a year he traveled to Paris to attend the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. After finishing his studies, he and William Boring toured southern Europe before returning to New York.[20]

The Main Immigration Building on Island 1 opened December 17, 1900, processing 2,251 immigrants the first day.[21] While the brick and stone French Renaissance style immigration building was the centerpiece of the immigration station on Island 1, the Georgian Revival style red brick and stone hospital building was the focus of the hospital complex on Island 2. Both revival styles stood firmly within the Beaux Arts approach popular in late nineteenth century America. The brick, steel and stone selected as primary building materials utilized up-to-date construction methods. Each island was a discrete unit with Island 1 containing public spaces for immigrant inspection and processing, immigrant dormitories and related functions and Island 2 devoted to the more private, and quiet, needs of a hospital complex. Each island also had its own food preparation, laundry and sanitary facilities.

Construction of the hospital buildings on Island 2 began in March 1899. Included in the new complex were the Hospital, the Hospital Outbuilding and the Surgeon's House. Like the plan for Island 1, the hospital plan for Island 2 also placed the buildings on a linear, southwest-northeast axis. While Boring & Tilton prepared plans for the massive 3½ story Hospital, the Treasury Department's Office of the Supervising Architect, under James Knox Taylor, prepared the first version of the plans for the one-

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[16] Stakely, 38.

[17] Withey and Withey, 601.

[18] Henry F. Withey and Elise R. Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)* (Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc. 1970), 12-13.

[19] Adolf K. Placzek, ed., *Macmillan Encyclopedia of Architects, Volume 1* (New York: The Free Press), 1982, 247.

[20] Withey and Withey, 601, 247. The firm dissolved in 1903 and Boring continued designing institutional and large residential commissions for wealthy New York patrons. He was active in architectural education through the American Academy in Rome and the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects. In 1915, he became a professor in the architecture school at Columbia University, and in 1931 became the school's first dean. Tilton went on to build a highly successful career focusing on smaller commissions, especially library design.

[21] Stakely, 40-41.

story Surgeon's House and the 1½ story Hospital Outbuilding.[22] The buildings in the hospital complex featured Georgian Revival elements such as red brick walls detailed with quoins, limestone window and doorway details, and hipped red, clay tile roofs.

When the bid proposals all came in over the available funding amounts, Boring & Tilton made revisions to the drawings and specifications to allow construction within the available budgets.[23] The exact nature of these changes is not known. It is likely that the final design for the building reflected the combined design efforts of the Office of the Supervising Architect and Boring & Tilton. In spite of the building's smaller size and ancillary use within the larger complex, it received the same attention to function, materials and stylistic considerations that won the commission for the firm. The construction contract for the Hospital was awarded February 20, 1900 to Daniel A. Garber of New York City, and contractor Atillio Pasquini of New York City won the contracts for the Surgeon's House and the Hospital Outbuilding.[24] The Hospital and the Surgeon's House were built contemporaneously with the Hospital Outbuilding.

More accurately known as the Hospital Laundry and Outbuilding, the Hospital Outbuilding featured load bearing, red brick exterior walls laid in Flemish bond with red brick quoins, round arched wood frame windows and one-leaf and two-leaf doorways detailed with limestone keystones, springers and sills. A centrally placed square, red brick chimney pierced the slate roof and was detailed with red brick quoins and topped with a limestone collar and terra cotta stack. Housed on its first floor were a large laundry space, a boiler room, linen room, disinfecting department, autopsy room, and morgue. The half-story second floor appears to have been used as staff housing. As an ancillary building within the hospital complex, the Hospital Outbuilding's smaller scale reflects its status in relation to the main hospital building, but its Georgian Revival form and detailing made it a fully integrated visual element within the Island 2 hospital complex.

After a number of change orders, the Hospital Outbuilding and the Surgeon's House were completed in late November 1901. Change orders during construction included eliminating the Keene's cement wainscot, constructing wood cornices and ceilings in lieu of galvanized iron, increasing the length of the autopsy room by reducing the size of the adjacent toilet room, and constructing a steel beam and concrete foundation for the boiler room.[25] Original laundry equipment, installed in 1901, included

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[22] During his tenure as Supervising Architect, James Knox Taylor oversaw the design and construction of post offices, federal buildings, and custom houses. James Knox Taylor (1857-1929) was born in Knoxville, Illinois and attended schools in St. Paul, Minnesota. He completed two years of architectural training at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Thereafter he worked for architectural firms in New York City and Boston but by 1882 had opened his own office in St. Paul. In 1884 he went into partnership with Cass Gilbert. Taylor's experience in running an architectural office and his administrative skills were assets and the firm of Gilbert & Taylor was successful, designing residences for prominent St. Paul clients. The partnership dissolved in 1892, and Taylor and his family moved to Philadelphia where he formed another partnership. The Panic of '93 adversely affected the architectural profession and by 1895, Taylor had joined the staff of the Office of the Supervising Architect as a draftsman. In 1896 he was promoted to temporary principal draftsman, and when the position of Supervising Architect became available in 1897 he was selected, serving until 1912. After retiring as Supervising Architect, he returned to private practice in Boston. He later moved his practice to Yonkers, New York and then retired to Tampa, Florida. See Lee, 197-199, 215; Withey and Withey, 592.

[23] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold, *Volume 4, Part 1,* 70. The original bid was for $33,340 but this was over the available amount. Revisions to the plans by Boring & Tilton reduced construction costs to $26,901.10.

[24]Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold, *Volume 4, Part 1,* 70. Garber became president of the North-Eastern Construction Co., the firm that built the contagious disease hospital buildings on Island 3.

[25] Harlan D. Unrau, *Statue of Liberty National Monument, New York/New Jersey, Historic Structure Report, Ellis Island (Historical Data)* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1981), 426-428. In the original specifications all

sterilizing and disinfecting machinery made by the Kensington Engine Works of Philadelphia and laundry equipment from the Troy Laundry Machinery Company of New York City.[26] The boiler was installed by E. Rutzler of New York City.[27] At the same time the Hospital Outbuilding and the Hospital were constructed, a one-story covered, red brick corridor was erected to provide all weather access between them.

When the Hospital was finished, it was staffed by physicians of the U.S. Marine Hospital Service. The service was established in 1798 to provide medical care to disabled or injured merchant seamen and naval and marine personnel.[28] In the late nineteenth century some U.S. Immigration Stations, including those at Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore were located near U.S. Marine Hospital Service facilities.[29] A federal quarantine hospital on Hoffman and Swinburn Islands served merchant seamen and immigrant quarantine cases from Ellis Island but was unable to also care for immigrants with non-quarantinable contagious diseases. Physicians with the service were uniformed officers. This aided them in carrying out their medical duties when they had to board ships to examine sailors and passengers. Such medical officers were stationed at Ellis Island as early as 1892.

Although the new hospital provided a much needed service, it was too small to adequately serve the treatment needs of a growing immigrant influx, and provided no specialized facilities for patients with communicable diseases such as measles, whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever and non-acute forms of pulmonary tuberculosis.[30] In June 1902, Dr. George Stoner, the supervising physician at Ellis Island, began lobbying for additional hospital space and the construction of a contagious disease facility. William Williams, Commissioner of Immigration at Ellis Island, assisted his medical staff in their lobbying efforts by citing for Congress and senior immigration officials the numbers of immigrants treated at Ellis Island. According to Williams as many as 400 to 500 people were seriously ill at any time on the island. Other sources stated that in one year more than 1,500 children had arrived with the measles or scarlet fever.[31]

The Department of the Treasury quickly developed and implemented plans for the construction of a contagious disease hospital on a new island—Island 3. In 1905, after obtaining legal title to the underwater area adjacent to Ellis Island, the federal government authorized construction of the new island, which was to be located about 500 feet from Island 2 to protect the hospital facilities there from

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first floor rooms were to be finished with a four foot, two inch high wainscot of Keene's cement, except the boiler room, and second floor rooms were to receive the same wainscoting to a height of three feet, nine inches. The wainscot was finished with a chair rail or wood cap. Rooms with plumbing were to be finished with a seven foot one inch wainscot of thick polished slate set in cement.

[26]Ibid., 82.

[27]Unrau, 1981, 432.

[28]Fitzhugh Mullan, *Plagues and Politics: The Story of the U.S. Public Health Service* (New York: Basic Books, 1989), 14;

[29] Harlan D. Unrau, *Ellis Island Statue of Liberty National Monument New York-New Jersey, Historic Resource Study (Historical Component) Volume II of III* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1984), 578 as quoted from the *Annual Report of the Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service*, 1892, 34, and Ibid., 23-24.

[30] Department of Commerce and Labor, *Report of the Commission Appointed by the President on September 16, 1903 to Investigate the Condition of the Immigration Station at Ellis Island* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1904), 15. Immigrants with non-communicable diseases were treated at New York City area hospitals.

[31] Stakely, 48-49.

the spread of disease.[32] When finished in 1906, Island 3 was about 4 ¾ acres and increased the total mass of Ellis Island to 21¼ acres. The new hospital, also staffed by physicians from the U.S. Marine Hospital Service, utilized a linear, southwest-northeast axis similar to that employed on Island I and Island 2.[33]

The construction of the new contagious disease hospital coincided with the peak years of immigration at Ellis Island. The heaviest influx was between 1900 and 1914 when America's increasing industrialization offered opportunities for immigrant labor. More than one million people passed through the facility in 1907, and on April 17, 1907, 11,747 immigrants arrived at Ellis Island, the largest number in a single day.[34] The number of immigrants needing medical care rose in conjunction with the increase in immigration overall.

The Marine Hospital Service continued to operate the Island 2 and Island 3 hospitals at Ellis Island until 1912, when it became the U.S. Public Health Service, an agency charged with the protection of public health through hospitals and research programs designed to identify and contain contagion that threatened public welfare.[35] Between 1917 and 1919 the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy used military medical and Public Health Service staff at Ellis Island hospitals to treat war wounded. In 1919, Ellis Island hospitals were returned to the U.S. Public Health Service, which operated the medical facilities there until 1951. In the early days, steamship companies were responsible for paying hospital and housing charges for immigrants and their families when one or all were detained for hospital care or for deportation.[36] Later, patients who could pay for their care were charged, while those who could not were treated without charge. Patients had access to some of the best medical care available at the time and the hospital complex delivered an important service representing the best aspects of American values.

In 1914 the start of World War I in Europe significantly slowed immigration, and after the United States entered the war in 1917, immigration slowed even more. The number of people arriving at Ellis Island in 1915 was 178,416, but by 1918 only 28,867 immigrants passed through the facility's doors.[37] During that period Ellis Island was mainly used as a military hospital and detention and deportation facility for enemy aliens including German merchant seamen taken from ships in New York and Boston harbors when the United States entered the war.[38] In 1918-1919, while the U.S. Army occupied the hospital complexes at Ellis Island for the treatment of wounded military personnel, the Army replaced the wood gangway between Island 2 and Island 3 with a covered wood walkway.[39] They also extended it

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[32] Letter, U.S. Surgeon General to William Williams, (6 November 1902), Folder 51447/044, Pt 1, Box 36, Entry 9, RG 85, NARA I.

[33] Memo, L.O.M (n.d.), Assistant Secretary to unidentified person, Folder 51436/1-8B [1] New Contagious Disease Hospital at Ellis Island, Pt. 1, Box 34, Entry 9, RG 85, NARA I.

[34] Unrau, *Volume I,* 1984, xix.

[35] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Doctors at the Gate: The U.S. Public Health Service at Ellis Island." Brochure from an exhibit at the National Museum of Health and Medicine, (Washington, D.C.,1998), 2.

[36] Department of Commerce and Labor, *Report of the Commission Appointed by the President on September 16, 1903 to Investigate the Condition of the Immigration Station at Ellis Island* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1904), 32.

[37] Unrau, *Volume 1*, 1984, 7.

[38] Ibid., xx.

[39] Stakely, 65.

along the western perimeter of Island 3.[40] Navy personnel occupied a portion of the baggage and dormitory building in 1918 and 1919. During this time, immigrants needing care were placed in New York City area hospitals.[41] The majority of wounded military returning from Europe was processed through Ellis Island; it was the first World War I "debarkation hospital" established in the United States.[42] Medical staffing included a mix of military and public health service personnel.

Following World War I, the first floor of the Hospital Outbuilding continued to be used as a laundry for the Island 2 hospital complex, and the second floor served as employee housing. In May 1921, a fire gutted the interior of the Hospital Outbuilding, destroying all of the building's wood elements, including the roof structure, dormers and the windows. Within a short time the Hospital Outbuilding was rebuilt and resumed its original functions. At that time, Alfred Brooks Fry, Chief Engineer and Superintendent of Repair of Public Buildings for New York recommended that any reconstruction make the building "fireproof," by removing all wood elements. Fry noted that to refurbish the building with all fire-proof elements would require removal of the morgue and emergency heating boiler in the southeast part of the building.[43] His recommendations apparently were not followed, as the building incorporates historic wood windows, wood doors, and associated wood moldings. At that same time, the Hospital Outbuilding apparently assumed laundry responsibilities for the contagious disease hospital on Island 3. The laundry serving that hospital complex was considered obsolete. Laundry equipment installed in the Hospital Outbuilding in 1922 included "…two washers, two extractors, two wash tubs, one collar shaper, one flat-iron worker, one dryer, one collar ironer, one starch cooker, five electric irons and boards, and two double body pressers."[44] Laundry capacity was between 2,000 and 3,000 items a day. The facility employed fourteen to fifteen people.

In the early 1920s immigration slowed further as a result of new federal immigration legislation in 1921 and 1924. Because of declining immigration by the mid-1920s, Ellis Island was "…rapidly losing the basic function for which it had been created—the primary examination and processing of immigrants."[45] Most immigrants were "pre-processed" before leaving home with final checks conducted on board the ships. In 1926 physicians at Ellis Island began intensive examination of alien merchantmen taken from both American and foreign vessels. Within the first month, 48,031 sailors were intensively examined and 209 sent to Ellis Island for testing and diagnosis. Federal legislation required that those with communicable diseases be confined to a hospital for the duration of their ship's stay in port, which led to hospital overcrowding, despite the limited number of immigrants. The U.S. Marine Hospital on Hoffman Island was the designated merchant marine hospital for New York, but Ellis Island handled the

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[40] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold. *Ellis Island Statue of Liberty National Monument New York-New Jersey: Historic Structures Report Units 2, 3 and 4*, Volume 4, Part 3. (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1986) 437.

[41] Harlan D. Unrau, *Historic Resource Study (Historical Component) Volume III of III: Ellis Island Statue of Liberty National Monument, New York-New Jersey* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1984), 795.

[42] Ibid., 796.

[43] Letter, Alfred Brooks Fry to Commissioner of Immigration, Ellis Island, (17 May 1921), Folder 111-A, Box 1805, Entry 9, RG 85, NARA I.

[44] Unrau, *Volume II,* 1984, 641.

[45] Unrau, *Volume III,* 1984, 896.

overflow, resulting in a greater number of seamen patients than immigrants.[46] With the smaller number of immigrants treated at the hospitals on Ellis Island, those facilities had room for non-immigrant patients.

During this period, many of the oldest buildings showed signs of their heavy usage and needed repairs. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge requested $300,000 from Congress for repair and improvements at Ellis Island, but the request was only partially funded. Infill of the space between Island 2 and Island 3 began, although it was not finished until the 1930s. Various repairs and upgrades were made to buildings including changes to the Hospital Outbuilding.[47] In 1928 and 1934 windows and door openings were modified to accommodate new screens. As early as 1930, some interior rooms were modified for new uses and partitions modified. A wide plaster cased doorway between the laundry and boiler room was installed and the boiler room converted to a pressing room. In 1932-34, a new linen exchange was constructed on the west elevation of the Hospital Outbuilding near its southwest corner. The addition replaced earlier detached linen rooms located against the east wall of the perimeter corridor that connected Island 2 with Island 3.

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt took office in 1933, new programs and new funding sources were established to create jobs, construct public buildings, support social and economic development. Known as the New Deal, these programs included funding under the National Recovery Act from sources such as the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The Department of Labor—which supervised immigration at that time—formed a 52-member nonpartisan citizen committee to analyze the conditions, operations and facilities at Ellis Island. The goal was to improve the physical plant and the immigrant experience and evaluate immigration law with a view toward fairer and more effective rules. Commission Edward Corsi, himself an immigrant processed through Ellis Island in 1907, worked closely with the committee and many of his ideas were incorporated into the Committee's March 1934 report to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.[48]

As a result of the Committee's recommendations, three major new buildings were erected at Ellis Island between 1934 and 1936. These are the Ferry House (1934), the New Immigration Building (1934) and the Recreation Building (1936).[49] The simplified lines and detailing of the new buildings were appropriate not only in their functional welcome to immigrants, but because these design aspects set the buildings apart from the more ornate early twentieth century buildings at Ellis Island, many of which housed detainees and those awaiting deportation.[50] Funding for the buildings came from the PWA program in the amount of $1,151,800. Support structures also were built including recreation shelters, verandas on the tuberculosis wards, and enclosed brick corridors on Island 2 and Island 3. Funding for these projects came from WPA sources in the amount of $1,422,980, and all emphasized providing a welcoming experience for the immigrant. [51]

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[46] Ibid., 920. The quarantine hospital on nearby Hoffman Island served New York area quarantine cases until the completion in 1938 of a new facility at Stapleton on Staten Island.

[47] Stakely, 77.

[48] U.S. Department of Labor, *Report of the Ellis Island Committee* New York: Ellis Island Committee, March 1934. See also Edward Corsi, *In the Shadow of Liberty* (New York: Arno Press and the New York Times, 1969).

[49] The New Immigration Building was erected by the George F. Driscoll Co. of Brooklyn, New York; the Recreation Building was built by the Albert Development Corporation of New York City.

[50] Barbara Benton, *Ellis Island: A Pictorial History* (New York, Facts on File Publications, 1985), 151-152.

[51] *Report of the Ellis Island Committee*, (March 1934), 14-15.

Most significantly for the Hospital Outbuilding, by 1934 plans for a new larger red brick linen exchange were drawn. The new exchange was under construction in 1937; contractor George F. Driscoll received the contract for this work. This area of the building was used for dropping off soiled linens and picking up laundered ones. The new linen exchange was grafted onto the west wall of the Hospital Outbuilding and the east wall of the adjacent corridor, now known as Passageway C8C, a new red brick, one-story passage that replaced a 1918-1919 wooden corridor in the same location. This brick corridor connected the Hospital Outbuilding with the main hospital and the Psychopathic Ward. These new corridors also linked the hospital complex on Island 2 with the contagious disease hospital on Island 3. The linen exchange and the adjacent passageway featured the same window bays and materials.

During World War II the hospitals on Island 2 and Island 3 housed wounded servicemen.[52] After World War II, Ellis Island again processed and treated sick or injured immigrants as well as detainees and deportees. On March 1, 1951, the U.S. Public Health Service closed the hospitals on Island 2 and Island 3 due to the declining number of patients in the now obsolete facility. However, the Health Service maintained a small infirmary for detainees in the main immigration building.[53] On November 12, 1954, Ellis Island closed, and both immigration and Coast Guard operations ceased. Equipment and fixtures, including plumbing, were removed from many buildings and distributed to other federal entities including border patrol offices, federal prisons, the Public Health Service, the military and the General Services Administration.[54] From 1954 until 1965, Ellis Island was under the control of the General Services Administration, which sought to sell or lease Ellis Island.[55] After several unworkable proposals, the island was placed under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service and on May 11, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued Proclamation 3656 adding the island to the Statue of Liberty National Monument.[56]

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Hospital Outbuilding is 1½-stories high and has compact, rectangular massing with a large one-story addition attached to the west elevation and the adjacent covered passageway. The building's massing, hipped roof and dormers lend it a somewhat residential quality, which is offset by the tall, square, industrial chimney rising from the center of the roof. These elements reference both the industrial and residential functions of the building. The building's smaller size identifies its ancillary status within the Island 2 hospital complex, while its Georgian Revival brick quoins and limestone detailing visually link it to its sister buildings on Island 2. Fenestration is asymmetrical and includes both large arched and small rectangular wood frame windows and one-leaf and two-leaf doorways. The front entry is on the north elevation and opens onto a one-story brick corridor that links the Hospital Outbuilding with the Psychopathic Ward and the Hospital to the east. Numerous changes to first floor laundry area rooms occurred in the 1920s and 1930s, following a fire and an expanded laundry role to serving both Island 2 and Island 3 hospitals.

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[52] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold, *Volume 4, Part 3.*

[53] Stakely, 92.

[54] Unrau, *Volume III*, 1984, 1002.

[55] U.S. Senate, 89th Congress, 1st Session, *Report No. 306. Disposal of Ellis Island (*Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1965).

[56] Unrau, *Volume I,* 1984, 11.

The large, one-story brick addition is attached to the west elevation of the Hospital Outbuilding and dates to 1937. It has a rectangular plan and contains one room. Its scale, massing, design and materials are compatibly integrated with the original building. The north and south elevations are three bays wide and each pierced with three, arched, three-part wood frame windows identical to those in the adjacent covered passageways (sections C8C and C8B). The addition's west elevation opens onto the one-story brick corridor (C8C) built in 1935 that runs along the west perimeter of Island 2, linking it with the facilities on Island 3, and the east elevation is attached to the west elevation of the Hospital Outbuilding through original and modified door and window openings.

2. Condition of fabric: Good. The Hospital Outbuilding is undergoing rehabilitation as an exhibit space and a number of projects related to rehabilitation efforts are underway. The roof has been rebuilt and windows and doors in the immediately adjacent covered corridors fitted with in-kind replacements within original openings. A few historic windows have been restored. A new steel and concrete stairway has been installed in former first and second floor bathroom spaces and a new sheet rocked stair hall created. Historic laundry equipment has been protected with plywood for the duration of construction. Some areas of the first floor have not yet been rehabilitated and retain historic fabric in fair to good condition. These include the former morgue and autopsy room, the linen and bedding disinfecting area and the large rear historic addition to the building. The second floor rooms are not restored and show evidence of considerable water damage in deteriorated wall and ceiling plaster and rusted metal lath. Windows are fitted with in-kind replacements.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 48'-2½" x 98'-7"

2. Foundations: The building rests on a base of one visible course of roughly dressed bluestone. The linen exchange addition appears to be at grade.

3. Walls: Exterior walls are load bearing red brick laid in Flemish bond and detailed with raised red brick quoins. A corbelled brick cornice band and corbelled belt course encircle the building. An outline of old tar or mastic on the west wall near the southwest corner of the building suggests the location of the no-longer-extant 1932 linen exchange addition. The current addition utilizes exterior red brick load bearing walls. Exterior walls are red brick laid in Flemish bond and detailed with a corbelled brick cornice band and corbelled belt course encircling the building. Red brick quoins finish the building corners.

4: Structural system: The building has poured concrete footings and may have a combination of poured concrete and wood pilings installed at various depths, depending on soil conditions.[57] The linen exchange addition is supported by concrete pilings, footings and beams.[58] Original specifications for the Hospital Outbuilding called for a bolted steel frame of girders and beams with some iron members overlaid with load bearing exterior brick walls on the first floor. In the laundry room, an iron column stands on a plinth and has a simple capital that connects to an iron or steel knee brace attached to the concrete beam. The original roof structure was wood, modified to metal after the 1921 fire. The current roof structure appears to be wood.

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[57] Construction Specifications: U.S. Immigrant Station, Ellis Island, New York Harbor. Hospital Outbuilding, Boring & Tilton, Architects, New York, New York, (5 May 1900), Folder 125, Box 6, RG 79, NARA – NE Region.

[58] Drawing No. 5-401, (27 January 1934), "Covered Passages."

The one-story west elevation addition appears to have an at-grade concrete slab foundation and load bearing brick and hollow clay tile walls. New steel beams resting on square, plaster finished red brick piers help support the wood and steel mansard roof structure.

5. Porches, stoops: Two of the building's four entries open onto attached covered corridors. The two entries on the south elevation open directly from the outside. No stoops or porches are present.

6. Chimneys: A centrally placed square, red brick chimney defined by red brick quoins rests on a dressed limestone block base and has a limestone collar and a terra cotta stack.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: Most exterior doorways are defined with original, slightly projecting red brick segmental arches detailed with dressed limestone keystones and springers; thresholds are metal, concrete, or bluestone. Exterior doors are in-kind replacement one-leaf and two-leaf wood glass and panel types. Each door has four fixed panes above a two panel wood base. Surrounds and trim are in-kind replacement wood types.

The north elevation door is a two-leaf, two-panel wood and glass type set in a plain, rectangular opening finished with a plain wood surround and exterior brick reveal. The south elevation door into the autopsy room is a one-leaf wood and glass panel type within a wide, projecting segmental arch with limestone keystone and springers. The arch is of the same dimensions as those used for the building's three part windows. The door is centrally placed within the arch, detailed with a plain wood surround and wood and brick reveal and topped with a two-light fixed pane transom that is finished with a beaded wood surround and brick reveal. Flanking the door are single two over two double hung wood sash in-kind replacement windows detailed with beaded wood surrounds and brick reveals. Sills are projecting limestone lug types. The doorway and window unit create a modified Palladian type opening. The south elevation door into the new stairwell occupies a narrow, original arched doorway that was enclosed at an unknown date and reopened during the recent rehabilitation work. The door on that opening is a one-leaf wood and glass panel type in a plain wood surround with exterior brick reveals. Atop the door is a two-light fixed pane transom detailed with a beaded wood surround and brick reveal.

The west elevation is now an interior wall against which is located the one-story linen exchange addition (see interior doorways and windows below). The west elevation of the one-story addition is pierced by a two-leaf, two-panel wood and glass replacement door in a plain, rectangular brick opening detailed with a plain wood surround and brick reveal. These doors replace two-leaf metal clad, fire-proof doors known as Kalamein doors, installed in 1939.[59]

b. Windows: Windows in the original portion of the building include historic and in-kind replacement types within original openings. Historic windows have historic beaded wood surrounds, while replacement windows are detailed with beaded in-kind replacement surrounds. Two historic windows within original segmental arch openings remain on the east elevation: a double window type and a triple type. Most first floor windows are in-kind replacement two over two double hung wood sash types arranged singly, in pairs or in sets of three. These are within original openings that are topped with projecting red brick segmental arches containing dressed buff limestone keystones and springers and finished with dressed buff limestone lug sills. The

[59] Unrau, 1981, 497-498, and Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold, *Volume 4, Pt.1*, 76. Kalamein doors are steel plated fire doors.

north elevation includes a small rectangular original window opening detailed with a limestone lug sill and limestone lintel and contains a two over two double hung wood sash in-kind replacement window. West elevation windows are now within the interior of the building (see interior windows below). Second floor windows are located in the building's ten dormers and are in-kind replacement one over one wood frame casement types within original openings. The six windows in the linen exchange addition are in-kind replacement three-part, four-pane, arched wood frame types with a central fixed pane panel flanked by casements and supported on three-panel wood bulkheads.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The hipped, red clay tile roof of the original building is detailed with raised red clay tile ridgelines. The mansard roof of the linen exchange addition has a flat sheet metal section bordered by mansard areas finished with red clay tiles.

b. Cornice, eaves: Overhanging eaves are boxed with beaded wood. Round bottom copper gutters are attached to the plain wood eave trim and connect to metal downspouts. The addition has close eaves finished with "U" shaped metal gutters attached to square metal downspouts.

c. Dormers: Ten hipped, red-clay-tile roofed dormers project from the building's roof; three dormers are located on both the north and south roof elevations and two dormers each pierce the east and west roof sections. Dormer walls are finished with red brick and wood shingles and each features a wood frame casement window; open eaves are boxed.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: See measured drawings HABS No. NY-6086-K for complete plans of this building. The historic plans dated 1900 show the first floor divided into ten spaces, with a staircase, four doorways, and a hallway leading to the west elevation doorway. The original main entry on the north elevation remains and opens onto covered corridor section C8A, which connects to the main hospital building to the east and passageway section C8B to the northwest. The first floor is modified from this original layout with known changes in 1930, 1942 and 2008-2009, including altering openings and removing walls.

The second floor remains largely unchanged from its original plan, which was organized as living quarters with four rooms arranged around a central hall. Two bathroom and toilet room suites were present, one on the north and the other on the south side; the south bathroom suite is now part of the new stair hall.

The large, one-room addition built in 1937 on the west elevation of the original building housed the linen exchange and remains a single room. The west elevation of the addition is pierced by a centrally placed replacement two-leaf wood and glass panel door accessed from the adjacent covered corridor, which is known as Passageway C8C. The addition's east elevation connects to the west elevation of the original portion of the Hospital Outbuilding through what were original exterior doors and windows, now modified.

2. Stairways: Two stairways are in the building. One, located near the north entry and accessed from the north side stair hall room appears to be historic and features slate treads and landings on decorative cast iron risers all carried on a cast iron stair carriage. A cast iron balustrade with oak banister and cast iron newel posts details the stairway to the first landing. Four steps lead to the first landing, where the staircase turns 45 degrees and ascends twelve steps to the second landing. There it again turns 45 degrees and ascends another ten steps. In the upper stair sections the hand rail is comprised

of thick, stained, wall mounted dowel sections. A new open well staircase with quarter pace landings is located in the south central portion of the building and was created out of former first and second floor toilet room areas. The staircase has steel treads on concrete risers mounted on a steel stair carriage. A steel pipe rail forms the banister.

A large opening in the floor of the upstairs hallway, temporarily covered with plywood sheets, will receive an electric lift.

3. Flooring: The first floor is finished with poured concrete, which includes concrete pads for heavy equipment and troughs to manage equipment elements and water runoff. Small holes are present in the concrete floor in the laundry room where equipment was bolted to the floor. The autopsy room is finished with a hexagonal white ceramic tile floor. The second story has a concrete floor, which in the four dormitory rooms is topped with wood plank flooring. The second floor bathroom has hexagonal white ceramic tile flooring.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Most first floor walls and ceilings are plaster over hollow clay tile. Some rooms have exposed brick or hollow clay tile. Second floor rooms are finished with plaster over metal lath. Water damage, spalling, holes, shelves and other items, and remnants of paint also are present. The laundry room has a plaster ceiling with an exposed concrete covered beam. The boiler room ceiling has steel beams below the original concrete beam section. The lower wall areas in the autopsy room are finished with white ceramic subway tile while the upper walls are finished with plaster. The east wall in this room is a reconstruction of an original wall that was removed at an unknown date. The new wall is finished with new white subway tile and sheet rock. The partial wall between the autopsy room and the morgue includes a wood panel and brick pier. The first and second floor toilet rooms have concrete panels on the ceiling and some wall areas. Second floor bathroom walls and ceiling are plaster. Plaster wall and ceiling areas around each dormer window in the bedrooms are coved. Sheet rock forms the walls and ceilings of the new, south stairwell and sheet rock also is used in a non-original large opening located in the wall between the former boiler room and the disinfecting department. Baseboards include four inch and six inch concrete types and 2½ inch coved wood types on the first floor with quarter-round wood baseboards on the second floor. A small section of bluestone is visible on the east wall of the north stairway room.

The east and west walls in the one-story linen exchange addition are red brick and the north and south walls are hollow clay tile. The linen exchange ceiling is open above steel beams to the wood sub-roof. Scars from no-longer-present wall mounted equipment are visible on the interior brick wall of the linen exchange's west elevation.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: Original first floor interior doorways are tall, narrow one- and two-leaf types set within slightly arched openings originally enclosed with transoms and wood panel doors. All original wood features in the building were reportedly destroyed in the 1921 fire, and the oldest remaining door detailing and doors reflect the repairs made following the fire. The oldest door types appear to be the five panel wood types in the disinfecting department area. Other historic doors that probably date from the 1930s are those with four panes of wire or pebble privacy glass located above three wood panels. Historic transoms include one-, two-, and three-light hopper types. Interior doors are painted and doorways have concrete thresholds.

Some first floor doorways have historic plain wood reveals and plain wood surrounds detailed with quarter round molding placed to create a beveled effect enclosed with glass and wood panel door types. Original doorways along the first floor hallway were modified with the

enclosure of transom areas with plaster, removal of transom windows and modification of surrounds through the removal of one or both beveled edges at unknown dates, but some modifications probably date to ca.1930. By 1930, an original interior doorway from the hallway into what was the boiler room was enclosed. At that time, a closet accessed from the hallway just south of the chimney was created and enclosed with a one-leaf door. That rectangular opening has a historic beveled wood surround and a wire mesh and wood panel door. By 1930, a wide doorway was created between the laundry and boiler room areas; a similar opening was created at a later, unknown date between the boiler room and the disinfecting department. These openings have rounded edges and lack doors. The doorway into the disinfecting room from the hallway has been modified with a Dutch door and quarter round molding. By 1930, the original linen room under the north side stairway was modified into an open area and the wall and doorway removed. Between 1931 and August 1933, some door openings required modification to accommodate the new screen doors.[60] In 1934-1935 installation a variety of millwork items were installed.[61] The doorway between the north elevation entry room and the laundry room is enclosed with a replacement, two-leaf steel door set in a steel cased reveal. It may date from 1939 when a similar door was installed on the west elevation of the linen room addition. The original door and transom between the laundry room and the hallway have been removed.

The exterior wall of the west elevation of the Hospital Outbuilding became an interior wall in 1937 when the linen exchange addition was built. That wall had a two-leaf doorway at the west end of the hallway. While the arched opening remains, the doors, transom, surround and reveal have been removed. A one-leaf doorway is located in the intake room of the disinfecting department. That opening is enclosed with a historic five panel wood and glass door topped with a three-light transom and detailed with a beveled surround.

Two wide doorway openings were recently cut in boiler and laundry room walls. A former window in the west elevation wall also was modified into a similar wide opening. These remain unfinished and without doors. The doorway from the hallway into the former toilet room now modified into the south side stairway remains but is backed by a sheet rock finished wall and is non-functional. No interior doors are present in the linen exchange addition.

Second floor doorway openings date to the 1921 repairs or to upgrades made in the 1930s. They are historic rectangular types finished with historic plain wood reveals and plain wood surrounds detailed with quarter round molding placed to create a beveled effect. Doors are historic four panel types. Two doorways on the second floor have rectangular fixed pane transoms; the other two rooms do not. A historic screen door survives on the northwest dormitory room door. The other dormitory rooms also had screen doors that are now removed. The dormitory doorways on the south side of the second floor are missing their surrounds and reveals and the doors have been removed. A new plaster cased doorway accesses the stairwell from the second floor hall. Where they occur, thresholds are wood. Attic access is through a small opening in the second floor skylight well. This opening is finished with a plain wood surround and reveal and has a plain wood door. Interior doors are painted.

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[60] Specifications and Contracts 1898-1955, Folders 140 and 143, Box 7, RG 79, NARA – NE Region; Letter, Albert & Harrison, Inc. to the District Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization at Ellis Island, (27 July1937), Folder 421 - Miscellaneous Correspondence and Notes 1933-1937, Box 25, RG 79, NARA – NE Region. Window screens were also added at this time.

[61] Specifications and Contracts, Box 15, RG 79, NARA – NE Region.

b. Windows: Historic beaded wood surrounds, reveals and sills detail the building's three surviving windows that appear to date to the repairs made following the 1921 fire. In-kind wood replacement windows have plain wood surrounds, reveals and sills constructed of sandwiched wood of different dimensions. Window molding is painted. Historic wood frame screens for some windows are stacked on the floor in the first floor north stairway room.

The west elevation of the main building originally included two, two over two paired wood frame double hung sash windows. One of these has been modified into a doorway and the other serves as a conduit for HVAC equipment. The west elevation also includes a small rectangular window in a segmental arch opening with a limestone lug sill. This opening now houses a fan. A small squarish historic two-light wood frame awning window is also in the west elevation wall. The window is detailed with a historic beveled wood surround. A similar window opening appears to have been enclosed with brick at an unknown date, but prior to 1954.

An original doorway on the north elevation that accessed the boiler room was modified into a window by 1930 and is now used to vent HVAC ducting. This window is enclosed with a louvered metal vent and insulated board.

A skylight is located within a recessed well in the second floor hall ceiling. The skylight features wire mesh glass and retains its metal operating hardware.

The in-kind replacement wood casement windows in the linen exchange addition feature brick segmental arches and plain wood sills and are supported by wood panel bulkheads. These window units and bulkheads match the windows used in the adjacent covered passageways. Window molding is painted.

6. Decorative features and trim: A beveled chair rail, sectioned into the plaster and hollow tile walls is present in the north stair well and in second floor rooms and the hallway. A decorative metal vent is located in the second floor bathroom ceiling.

7. Hardware: Replacement brass window hardware and ca. 1920s brass transom hardware are present. The second floor skylight features metal operating hardware including a rod and wheel. Typical historic door hardware includes round brass or bronze knob and plate types; hinges are typically brass or bronze loose pin types. Historic brass or bronze strike plates and locking mechanisms are present on some doors. Historic cast iron deadbolts remain on a few doors including one marked "Elco." A circular metal shower curtain rod is suspended from the second floor bathroom ceiling, but no showerhead or piping is present. A historic iron ladder accesses the attic hatch located in the sky light well. Non-historic door hardware typically features metal levers, instead of knobs, mounted on metal escutcheons.

8. Mechanical equipment:

a. Heating, ventilation: Metal radiators are present in the linen exchange addition and second floor rooms. A recently installed HVAC system located in the former boiler room will provide climate control for the building and others in the vicinity. Numerous associated pipes and metal ducting are mounted along the boiler room's plaster and sheet rock walls. Metal and PVC pipes protrude from the ceilings and walls of many first floor rooms and new metal ducting, associated with the HVAC system, runs along ceilings and through walls of several rooms. Plastic and metal pipes associated with the HVAC system also protrude from the ceilings of the second floor dormitory rooms.

b. Lighting: No original or historic ceiling light fixtures remain in the building; a few round ceramic wall sconces are in second floor rooms. Typical second floor light switches are single metal lever types in metal plates. Electrical outlets are two-plug types. Some rooms have wall mounted metal conduit connecting to switch plates and electric plugs.

c. Plumbing: Plumbing fixtures in first floor rooms have been removed with the exception of a double slate utility sink located in the laundry room. The second floor toilet retains a porcelain elongated bowl toilet with a wood seat. In the bathroom a wall mounted porcelain sink supported on metal legs features a decorative backsplash. The bathroom also includes a porcelain pedestal sink that may have been used for hand laundry. Faucets are metal. No shower head or bathtub is present. Pipes include galvanized and cast iron. New metal and PVC piping protrudes from the four second floor bedroom ceilings and walls; these elements are part of the recently installed HVAC system.

In 1933 new plumbing fixtures were installed in Island 2 buildings.[62] In 1945, plumbing fixtures were replaced in Island 2 buildings, and some plumbing fixtures in the Hospital Outbuilding may have been replaced at that time.[63]

d. Other: Two reinforced concrete beams sit on the floor of the morgue and may have been a supporting structure for a cadaver refrigerator. Two large metal electrical boxes marked Cutler-Hammer are mounted on the walls of the laundry room. Four boxes identified as Square D Co., Detroit, Catalog No. 88251 bear the following patents: 1412242, 1412466; 1436622; 1540795; 1715339; 1842453; 1863224; 1953806; 1953807. Other electrical boxes include two by General Electric, and one Westinghouse safety switch. Laundry equipment includes one possible laundry dryer marked "Smith-Drum, Phila.", and a roller press marked "American Six Roll Floating Roll." A large metal vent hood is mounted on the ceiling above the roller press. A turbine-like iron device that may be a laundry spinner or wringer is marked "The Fletcher Whirling,…" the remainder of this unknown device's name is not visible.

D. Site:

1. Historic Landscape Design: The Hospital Outbuilding is near the northwest corner of Island 2 west of the Psychopathic Ward and adjacent to the island's west perimeter covered corridor. This location is convenient to both the main Island 2 hospital complex and also to Island 1 and Island 3. The building's original primary façade appears to have been the north elevation, which connects with a one-story covered red brick corridor (known as C8A) that links the Hospital Outbuilding with the Psychopathic Ward and the Hospital. A courtyard area is formed by the north wall of the Hospital Outbuilding and the C8A section of the covered passageway. Historic photographs dating to the early twentieth century that were taken from the south show portions of the Hospital Outbuilding and open grassy spaces on the south side of the building. A ca. 1913 photograph of the adjacent north elevation corridor shows a manicured lawn and oval planting bed in the area between the ferry slip and the hospital outbuilding corridor.[64] Mature sycamores and other trees now are found to the south and

[62] Summary of Improvements at Ellis Island, completed within the Preceding Eighteen Months and Relating Directly to Sanitation, August 1933, Specifications and Contracts 1898-1955, Folder 330, Box 16, and Folder 145, Box 7, RG 79, NARA – NE Region.

[63] Specifications and Contracts 1898-1955, Folder 146, Box 7, RG 79, NARA – NE Region.

[64] William Williams Collection, New York Public Library, Image ID No. 416760.

north of the Hospital Outbuilding and near other Island 2 buildings. Grasses, poison ivy and volunteer tree and shrub seedlings are in the courtyard.

2. Passageways: A system of one-story covered, red brick corridors connects the Island 2 hospital complex with Island 1 and Island 3. Passageway C8A was built contemporaneously with the Hospital Outbuilding to connect it with the Hospital. When the Psychopathic Ward was built in 1907, it was connected to corridor C8A. The Hospital Outbuilding also is served by Passageways C8B and C8C that were constructed in 1934-1935 with WPA funding. C8C replaced wooden covered corridors built by the U.S. Army in 1918-1919.[65] Passageway C8A was probably reconstructed in 1934-1935.[66] C8A and C8B feature arcades of in-kind replacement wood frame windows mounted atop three-panel wood bulkheads, while windows in corridor C8C are inserted directly into the brick walls. C8A attaches to the Hospital Outbuilding at its north entry and to C8B, a curved red brick segment. Passageway C8B connects to C8C, a long straight segment that parallels the west boundary of Island 3. Passageways C8A and C8B form a "y" at their junction. All segments of this passageway have gabled red clay tile roofs and close eaves finished with flat bottom metal gutters and metal downspouts. The brick walls are laid in Flemish bond. Floors are concrete and ceilings are finished with concrete panels over metal rafters.

Passageway C8A intersects the Hospital Outbuilding at its north elevation via a short corridor segment that runs south from the main portion of passageway C8A and terminates in a square pavilion. The pavilion features a hipped, red clay tile roof, close eaves finished with plain wood trim and flat bottom metal gutters and downspouts. Its north elevation is enclosed with a two-leaf in-kind replacement wood and glass panel door within the original opening beneath a centrally placed round arched entry topped with a projecting limestone keystone. The short connecting corridor at the Hospital Outbuilding's north entry is enclosed at its south end by an in-kind replacement two-leaf wood and glass panel door placed within the original opening. C8A continues north from the pavilion to its junction with C8B, and south to the Psychopathic Ward and the Hospital. Its north elevation is pierced by a centrally placed round arched entry topped with a projecting limestone keystone. The top portion of the opening is finished with a recessed concrete panel and the doorway is enclosed with a two-leaf, in-kind replacement wood and glass panel door.

Another square pavilion constructed of the same materials and design is located at the north end of Passageway C8B. This pavilion is reportedly a remnant of a 1901 wood pavilion renovated in 1934-1935 with brick walls, metal rafters and concrete board ceiling. The integral guard room accessed from the south or west elevations was built at a later date.[67] Directly north of the pavilion is an in-kind replacement two-leaf wood door placed within the original opening.

The straight segment of Passageway C8A projecting from the north entry of the Hospital Outbuilding features one bay. The west bay is enclosed with an in-kind replacement two-leaf wood door flanked by four fixed pane sidelights placed within the original opening. The east side of the corridor has an

[65] Ibid., 437. Prior to the Army's wood corridor, the portion of Passageway C8C that spans the area where Island 2 and Island 3 connected was connected by an uncovered wood trestle about 500 feet in length; some sources say gangway.

[66] List of Approved Projects at Ellis Island Included in the Public Works Program Under the National Recovery Act. NARA, Northeast Region, New York City, Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service, Box 16, FF 330, WPA Projects 1933-1937. Passageway C8C was one segment of a long corridor built along the west perimeter of all three islands from the Power House on Island 1 to the Power House on Island 3. The budget for construction of the corridor between Island 1 and Island 3 was $175,000; and Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold. *Volume 4, Part 3*, 437.

[67] Beyer Blinder Belle/Anderson Notter Finegold. *Volume 4, Part 3,* 439-440.

arched, in-kind replacement three-part, wood frame window containing twelve fixed panes. Both the door and window are detailed with segmental red brick arches. The window sits on a three-panel wood bulkhead supported by a concrete base. The connecting curved portion of C8A is divided into four bays on the south elevation and five on the north. These bays incorporate the same arch and in-kind replacement windows as the straight corridor section. The second arm of the "y", known as C8B, has three bays with the same in-kind replacement window treatment on the southeast elevation. The passageway is devoid of openings on the west elevation.

Passageway C8C runs along with west side of the island between the Hospital Outbuilding and the Power House on Island 3. An in-kind replacement two-leaf wood door within the original opening provides access from C8C to the Hospital Outbuilding through its west side linen exchange addition. Passageway C8C's east elevation near its south end has two bays enclosed with in-kind replacement three-part, wood frame windows containing twelve fixed panes within segmental brick arches. These windows are inserted directly into the brick corridor wall and do not have supporting wood panel bulkheads. The brick walls below the windows are detailed with two header courses of red brick. The corridor terminates on the south where it has been cut away, then resumes on the south side of the break continuing to the buildings on Island 3.

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural drawings: A computerized Drawings Index System for all types of Ellis Island architectural and engineering drawings is located at the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Denver Service Center. Drawings are digitized and available at http://etic.nps.gov. Six Boring and Tilton drawings for the Hospital Outbuilding were located. Dated 1900, they include plans, elevations, sections and details. Site plans from 1916, ca. 1919 and 1934 show the Hospital Outbuilding and its location within the hospital complex. Four drawings for alterations and additions to the Hospital Outbuilding also were located. These date from 1923/1930, 1934, 1946 and 1947. Site plans from 1916, 1934, 1942, and 1946 show changes to Island 2 buildings, the linen exchange addition and corridors. The drawings most useful in preparing this report were:

NPS Drawing No. 462/42,947, Sheets 1-6, "Hospital Outbuilding," ca. 1900 [historic plans, elevations, and details]
NPS Drawing No. 462/42,957, Sheets 1-3, "Description Location Plan No. 2 Island," (1 June 1916) [site/floor plans]
NPS Drawing No. 462/42,959, Sheet 1 of 1, "Reconstruction and Recondition of Laundry Building, Island No. 2, Concrete Floor and Drains," (10 June 1930).
NPS Drawing No. 462/43,959, Sheet 2 of 6, "Repairs to Covered Way," (17 March 1932).
NPS Drawing No. 462/42,975, Sheet 2 of 14, "Electrical Installation Island No. 2", (14 February 1934).
Drawing No. 5-401, "Covered Passages," (27 January 1934).
NPS Drawing No. 462/43,944, Sheet 3of 3, "Revised Plan of North Side of Island," (24 March 1934).
NPS Drawing No. 462/43,967, Sheet 37 of 45, "General Plan, First Floor," (23 December 1937, revised 3 December 1946).

B. Early Views: Early photographs of the Hospital Outbuilding seem to be rather rare. Two photographs in the William Williams Collection, New York Public Library, New York City, show portions of the Hospital Outbuilding.

View of Ellis Island Grounds with Plantings; Buildings to Rear. Edwin Levick, Photographer, Catalog Call No. MFY 95-39, digital ID 416760. Photographs of Ellis Island 1902-1913.

Another View of Ellis Island from the Harbor, Showing Various Buildings, ca. 1913. Catalog Call No. MFY 95-39, digital ID 416784. Photographs of Ellis Island 1902-1913.

C. Bibliography:

See notes for a listing of relevant archival materials from Record Groups 79 and 85 at the National Archives and Records Administration in New York City (Northeast Region) and Washington, D.C.

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

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2. Secondary and published sources:

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Withey, Henry F., and Elise R. Withey. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased).* Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

Documentation of the Hospital Outbuilding, and other selected structures on Ellis Island was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), within the Heritage Documentation Programs (HDP) of the National Park Service (Catherine C. Lavoie, Chief, HABS; Richard O'Connor, Chief, HDP) during the summer of 2009. The project was sponsored by Statue of Liberty National Monument, David Luchsinger, Superintendent. Field recording and measured drawings were completed by Paul Davidson, HABS Architect and Project Supervisor; and Architects Sara Dewey (University of Maryland), Luis Pieraldi (Metropolitan University of Puerto Rico), Michael Sandbury (Kent State University), and Thomas Sheridan (Rhode Island School of Design). HAER Architect Dana Lockett and HABS Architect Robert Arzola served as Project Leaders. Diane E. Williams served as project historian with guidance from HABS Historian Lisa Pfueller Davidson. HAER Photographer Jet Lowe and HABS Photographer James Rosenthal completed large-format photographs during 2009. Assistance was provided by the staff of Statue of Liberty National Monument, particularly Diana Pardue (Chief, Museum Services Division), Richard Holmes (Archaeologist), and Don Fiorino (Historical Architect).

V. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL - ILLUSTRATIONS

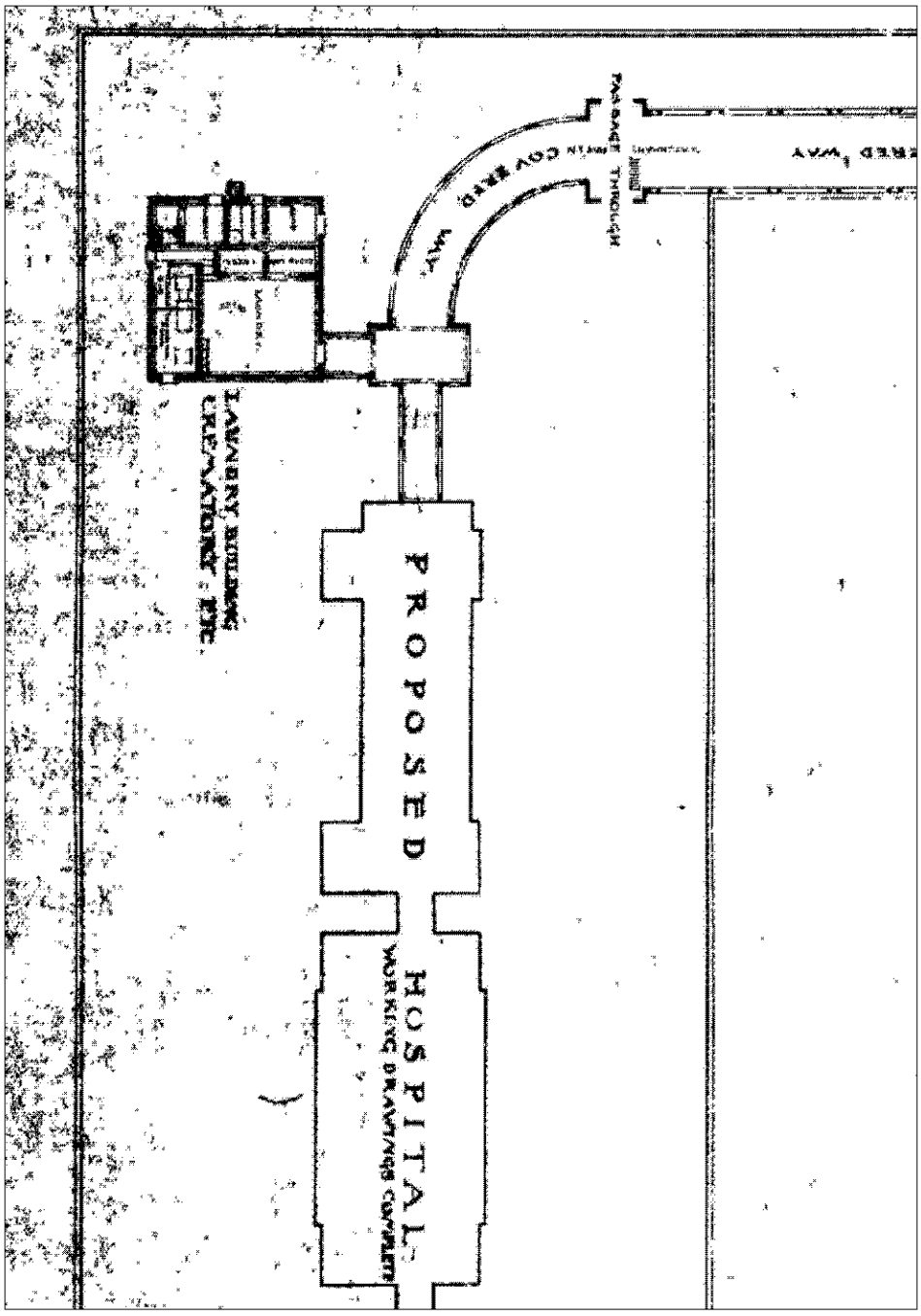

Figure 1: Excerpt from Boring & Tilton, "General Plan of Ellis Island," (ca. 1899), showing Revisions to Hospital Outbuilding, (NPS Drawing No. 356/43,968 Sheet 2A)
Source: Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service

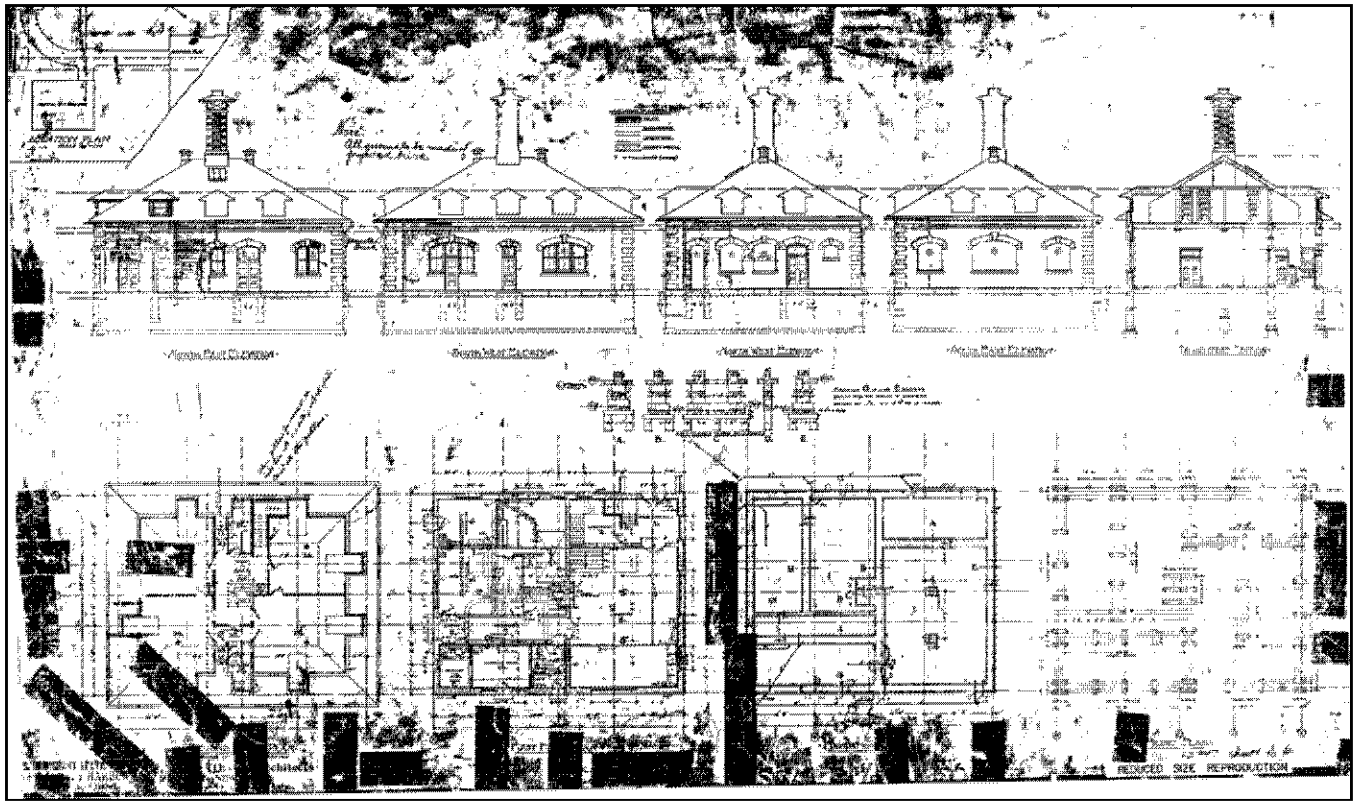

Figure 2: Plans and Elevations, ca. 1899, (NPS Drawing No. 462/42,947, Sheet 1 of 6)
Source: Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service

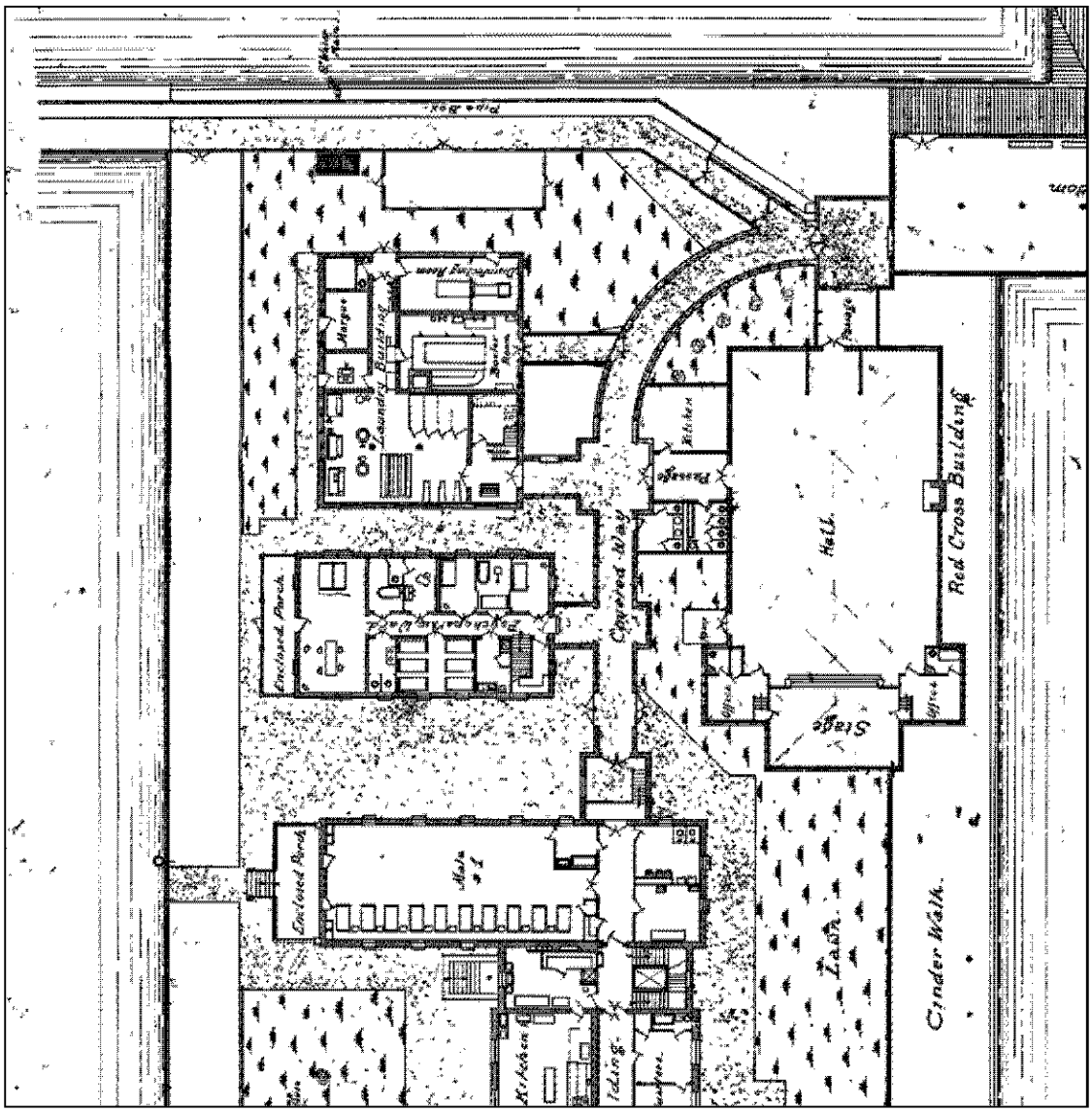

Figure 3: Excerpt from "Description Location Plan No. 2 Island," showing Hospital Outbuilding, (NPS Drawing No. 462/42,957, Sheet 1 of 3)
Source: Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service

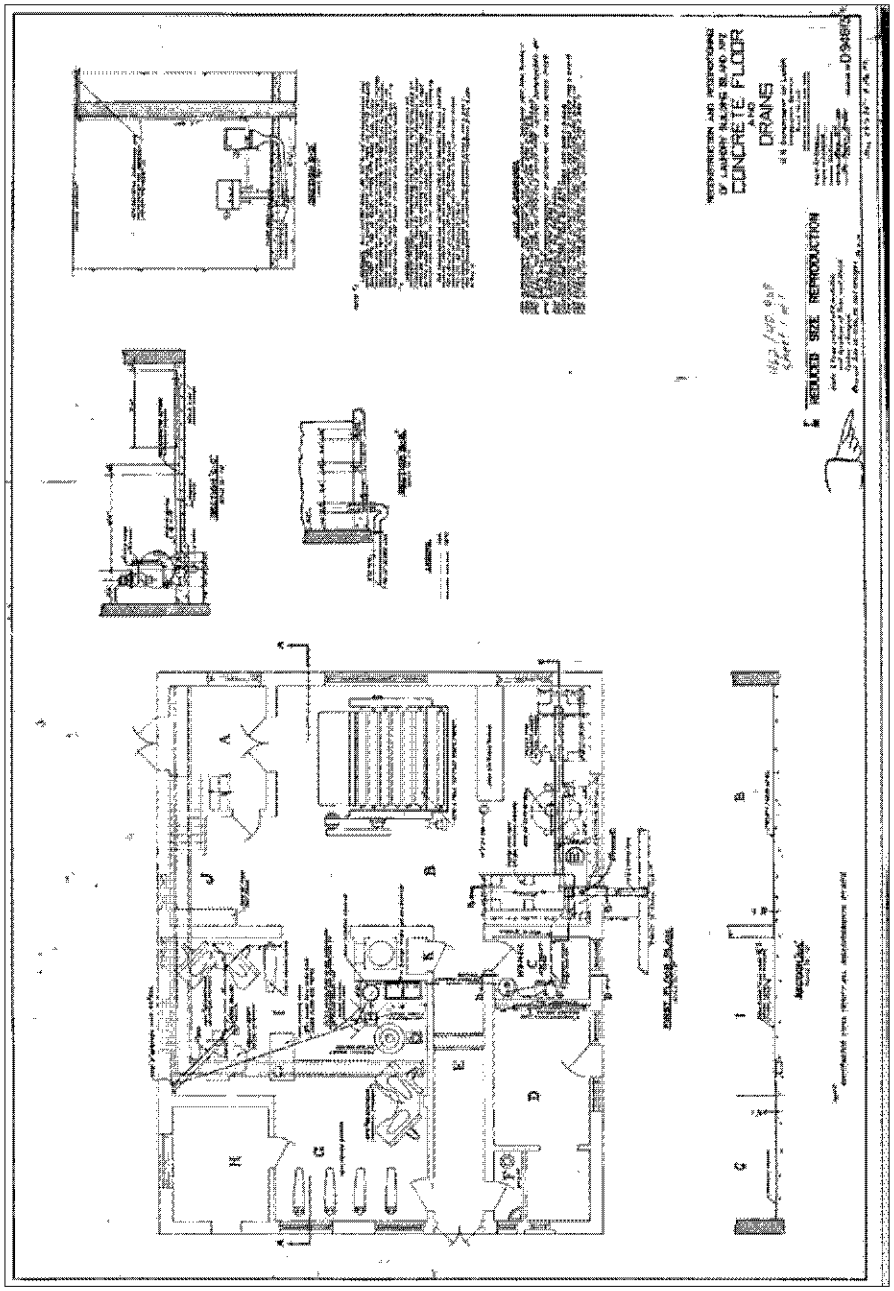

Figure 4: "Laundry Building Island No. 2 Concrete Floor and Drains," (10 June 1930)
(NPS Drawing No. 462/42,959, Sheet 1 of 1)
Source: Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service

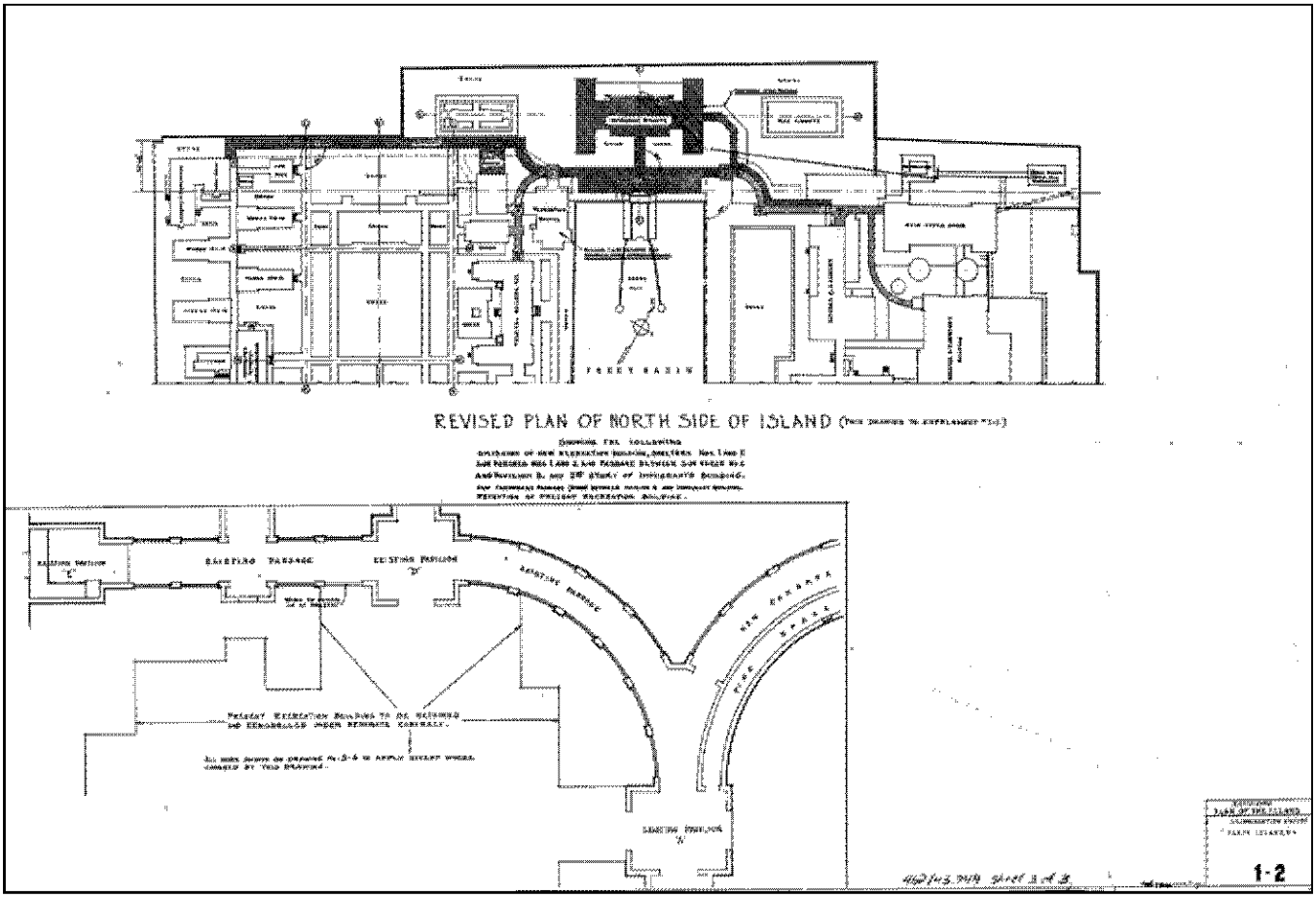

Figure 4: "Revised Plan of North Side of Island" showing linen exchange addition, (24 March 1934)
(NPS Drawing No. 462/43,944, Sheet 3of 3)
Source: Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, National Park Service